

I hope it is not too late to post this, but here it is. I was thinking on this as I ran the Columbus Marathon today (while listening to Bruckner on my iPod, yes Bruckner and marathons go well together).

I was a freshman in high school, I was already hooked on Beethoven, Mozart, Tchaikovsky, Brahms for about two years. I had heard of Bruckner before I heard his music, thanks to Milton Cross and his guide to the classics. I remember thinking what an interesting character! Well I was getting into Wagner and thought he might be interesting but never heard him on our classical radio station. One day at our local record store I found Bruckner's 4th, Eugene Ormandy and the Philadelphia Orchestra. I was blown away by the sound of those French horns, the drama of the finale, it became my favorite recording.

My second purchase was a Nonesuch release of the 7th conducted by Carl Schuricht, this took me a little more time to get into and understand, but it clicked over several months of listening. The 7th was followed by a Schuricht recording of the 3rd, which confirmed my new found love of this man's music.

I second Celibidache's comment that Bruckner's music is one of the sublime gifts of life that I was fortunate to discover.

Paul Gibson